

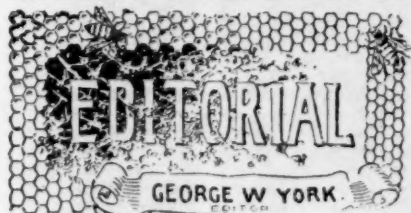
ESTABLISHED IN 1861

THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

OLDEST BEE-PAPER IN AMERICA

Weekly, \$1 a Year. } DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY— } Sample Copy Free.
—TO BEE-CULTURE. }

VOL. XXXIV. CHICAGO, ILL., JULY 19, 1894. NO. 3.



The Canadian Bee Journal has just completed its first year under the new management. It has improved wonderfully since its Brantford owners took hold of it, and we hope it may continue to evidence signs of "going on to perfection."

Extract the Dark Honey.—The *Progressive Bee-Keeper* says that James Heddon advises getting all the white honey stored in the sections, and extracting the dark fall honey, as the latter brings about as much in the market when extracted as it would in the comb.

The North American Convention, as announced last week, is to be held at St. Joseph, Mo., on Oct. 16th, 17th and 18th. President Abbott is very desirous of having all who expect to attend that meeting, to notify him by postal card or otherwise at once, as it will aid him very much in getting reduced rates on the railroads. Please attend to this little matter now, before you forget it, and thus do your share in assuring a successful meeting. We trust that there may be a general rally of bee-keepers at St. Joseph in October—even a larger and more enthusiastic company than was at the Columbian meeting last year, if that is possible.

Prospects for the Honey-Flow.

—In *Gleanings* for July 1st we find this editorial item on the honey prospects of the country:

For the last ten days the prospects have been rather discouraging. Reports seemed to show that there was very little white clover anywhere in the country; and in our own locality scarcely any could be seen in the old pasture lots, where years before it abounded freely. It is still early to speak for outside localities; but in our own the white clover is just beginning to make its appearance. Basswood, too, is just opening up. The conditions for a honey-flow from this source were never better. The trees are literally full of flower-buds; and where the blossoms have opened up, the bees are humming around them as in the old-fashioned way, and already are beginning to drop in at the entrances; and as early as the first break of day there is that roar that sounds sweeter to the bee-keeper than music. Reports everywhere speak well of the prospects from basswood.

Some claim that it is not fully settled that the queen deposits the egg in the queen-cells at the time of natural swarming; but my assistant saw her do it, and so have others, while the position of the eggs in the cells proves it, even had no one ever witnessed her in the act.—*Doolittle*.

Awful Heat in Texas.—On July 12th we received the following letter from Mrs. Atchley, telling about the awful heat at Beeville, Tex., on Monday, July 2nd:

DEAR BRO. YORK:—I have a sad thing to relate. On last Monday we had a hot wind that began to blow from the north about noon, and the heat increased until the thermometer indicated 114 degrees in the coolest part of the house. The house and furniture, and in fact everything, became so hot that it could not be touched. Fortunately, we have a pipe and hose that leads

water from our large tank to any part of the house, and we kept alive by keeping the house and beds wet with water. We had to keep the children in a shady place kept wet all the time.

Our bees suffered fearfully. Nearly all our nuclei were damaged or killed outright. The strong colonies went through all right, as they were able to keep fanned cool—shade made no difference, they all suffered alike.

We did not know the extent of the damage until our out-yards were visited. Bees were parched as dry as powder; combs and honey boiled out of the hives. A bee would die outside the hive in a moment.

People that did not have plenty of water handy had their faces blistered. We have only a few untested queens left that were in our strongest nuclei, but I hope to be able to fill all orders promptly until we can form more nuclei from our strong colonies, and rear more queens, which we have been busily doing since the hot day.

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ANSWERED BY
DR. C. C. MILLER,
 MARENGO, ILL.

In this department will be answered those questions needing IMMEDIATE attention, and such as are not of sufficient special interest to require replies from the 20 or more apiarists who help to make "Queries and Replies" so interesting on another page. In the main, it will contain questions and answers upon matters that particularly interest beginners.—ED.

Making Foundation Moulds.

Please give full directions for making foundation moulds of plaster of paris; also full directions how to use them after they are made. S. D. Y.
 Woodville, Tex.

ANSWER.—I don't know how the thing is done, and I doubt if you will care to know. I think those who have tried it have given it up. However, if any one makes a success of it, and thinks it a desirable thing, perhaps he will be kind enough to tell us about it through these pages.

Comb Honey Adulteration.

1. There is a man here who says that comb honey can be adulterated. Can it be done? If so, how?

2. Did you ever see, or hear of, any comb honey that was adulterated?

De Soto, Mo.

A. B. G.

ANSWERS.—1. A silly story has been going the rounds of the press that artificial comb honey could be made, the combs made by man, the honey filled in and sealed over, without any help whatever from the bees. Sufficient reply to such nonsense is in the fact that for years A. I. Root has made a standing offer of \$1,000 for a single pound of such honey, and no one has ever come forward to claim the \$1,000.

Comb foundation is made and largely used, and in Germany they are now making combs with cells of full depth, but they are so heavy that they would at once be detected, and if everything else could be accomplished it hardly seems possible that any machinery could

make even a faint imitation of the bees' handiwork in sealing the cells.

If sugar or some other substance were fed to bees and stored by them, that might be called adulterated comb honey.

2. I once saw a piece of artificial comb honey. It is the only piece I ever heard of, and was probably as nearly perfection as could be attained. But it was as easy to distinguish it from the dainty work of the bee as to distinguish a rose made of coarse cotton-cloth from the delicate flower that grows on the bush.

Queen-Cell Protector.

If a queen-cell just ready to hatch in a few hours or a day, is put in a West cell-protector, and put in the same apartment as the queen, and left so, what will be the result? J. F. L.

ANSWER.—The young queen may supplant the old one, but in most cases that I have tried, the young queen has been destroyed before she was three days old.

Pollen and Brood in Sections.

In many of my section cases 90 per cent. of the sections are completely peppered with a dark brown (almost black) pollen. In a few cases *drone-brood* was found in the lower half of one or more sections. How to explain this is the trouble. The queen was not crowded.

Some years ago I practiced contraction, often confining the queen on six frames and occasionally to five; and I can remember but one occasion of pollen in the sections, and then only to a very limited extent. I have also (years ago) used broad frames on each side, six brood-frames in the center; even then the queen never molested the sections, nor did they contain pollen.

I have never used zinc to any extent. When I use the T case I use a honey-board, either wood or zinc, as most convenient. When using a wood slatted-bottom case, bee-space below, I always omit the honey-board. I know of but one thing that may have favored the queen going above—it is this: Intelligent help not being obtainable, and being unable to examine the condition of the brood-chamber, as soon as the first colony cast a swarm (May 12th), I did not examine the strength of other colonies, nor did I wait for the whitening of the top of the frames, but proceeded to place 24 sections on each hive. White clover was in full bloom, but owing to

continuous rain with low temperature it yielded no nectar. The result was that the sections were unnoticed for more than two weeks, except for loafing.

One other possible, but to me improbable, factor: I had, last fall, about 400 partly-filled sections, mostly strong honey, which I fed to the bees. These were leveled, shaved down, and used freely as *batts*, putting from 8 to 12 in each case. The brood-chamber contains in no case less than 7 frames, generally 8, occasionally 9, sometimes 10—no system, but I aim to adapt to the strength of colony at the time. This season I could not examine and add a frame as needed, but at the time they were overhauled, some 75 or 80 empty combs were distributed among 40 colonies, partly to save them, and fearing I would not be able to give them as needed. The season opened well the first few days of May, then daily rains with low temperature, continuing until June 1st; not a pound of honey to the hive, and bees destroyed much brood.

White clover is still in full blast, but yielding sparsely. I have had a rush only on two or three days; 30 of my 40 colonies have cast swarms. A dearth from drouth exists now. I have perhaps 600 pounds, possibly 700, almost ready to cap. A good rain with electrical accompaniment is with us to-night, which insures a return of the flow.

Now, the whole thing is this:

1. What am I to do with this "*pollenated*" honey? Some sections are horrible—the lower half being thickly peppered. It can't be sold, it won't keep, or might be kept and fed back this fall—cut out the comb and burn the wood, or, if I had an extractor, I might extract; then the honey would be badly tainted, and would not sell except for use in the arts.

Right here allow me to say that I have an enviable reputation for producing gilt-edge comb honey. So I am jealous of impure honey.

2. What is the cause of this anomaly, and how can I prevent its repetition?

Guy's, Md., June 25. W. S. A.

ANSWERS.—1. I never knew the time when honey to feed in the spring was not a valuable thing, and, all the better, honey with pollen. You say, "It won't keep," but I'm sure I don't know why. Are you not mistaken in that? It could be fed and then the combs melted up; or, if after the honey was fed out, the sections were left where all the bees of the apiary had free access to

them, it is possible the pollen might be cleaned out. Certainly I wouldn't spoil my market by selling it, although it might do to sell to neighbors at a low price, with a distinct understanding that it was an inferior article. If you could get the bees to clean out the pollen without darkening the combs, they might be used over again.

2. I'm sorry to say I can't give a bit of light on the second question. If any of the correspondents of the BEE JOURNAL can do so, I hope they will. Putting on the sections before needed I feel pretty sure has nothing to do with the case. I've done that often with no such results. The drone-brood in small quantity is nothing so very strange. Your brood-combs probably had few or no drone-cells, and the anxiety for drone-brood made the bees fill out the sections with drone-comb, and then the queen explored till she found these.

I should think it just possible that the presence of drone-brood, or indeed of any brood, in the sections, might induce the bees to put pollen there, but as I understand you, some of the cases had no brood in.

Drone-brood in sections can be prevented by filling the sections with worker foundation, but worker foundation will not keep pollen out.

I don't think the use of bait sections had anything to do with the trouble. Who can help us out?

Sweet Clover and Lucerne.

1. How would I manage to get one patch to yield nectar from sweet clover every year? Or can't it be done?

2. Will lucerne clover bloom the first year? At what time does it begin to blossom?

M. W. G.

Bankston, Ala.

ANSWERS.—1. Sweet clover comes from the seed one year, makes a small growth, then makes a big growth its second or blooming year, then dies root and branch. To get a patch to bloom, therefore, every year, it will be necessary to sow two years in succession. In the fall or early spring you can get the second sowing in by scattering on the surface of the ground, then letting horses or cattle tread in the seed.

2. I don't know, but I am under the impression that it does not bloom till the second year. July is given in the botany as its time of blooming, but in Colorado they claim from June till September.

OUR DOCTOR'S HINTS.

BY F. L. PEIRO, M. D.

McVicker's Building,

CHICAGO, ILL.

Honey and Bees as Remedies.

Of all commendable enterprises, I think the care of a few colonies of bees the most pleasant, instructive and profitable. What wisdom may be gathered from close observation of their native tact and industry!—and what luscious sweets may be ours through their perseverance and our efforts! Just think of biscuits and honey! How one's mouth fairly waters at the very suggestion! The most perfect, most healthful sweet extant—far better than candies! And such a desirable vehicle for many remedies.

Now we all admit that borax is not nice to the taste, and Charlie will yell if you insist on his taking it; but just mix a little of the powder with a tea-spoonful of honey, and lo! he wants some more, right away. And you know this mixture is excellent for ordinary sore throats and tickling coughs. Yes, and for cankered sore mouth (the result of indigestion).

Then, too, when Lucy has a fever—mouth parched, tongue dry as a shingle, skin shrivelled, and hands hot—why, that's the time when water and honey, with a dash of lemon juice in it, will make the child smile with delight.

If you *have* to give castor oil—the nasty stuff—mix half oil and half honey, and the bees themselves would hardly recognize the horrible adulteration! Fred will take it right down with a smack of his lips!

For Mary's whooping cough, a sprinkle of pulverized alum on a table-spoonful of honey every hour or two will greatly help.

Did you ever try boneset tea and honey, equal parts, for that tired, shiftless feeling experienced principally in the fall, generally attributed to "biliousness"? Well, it is really a fine tonic—a real "bracer" to human energies. A cup of the mixture taken hot, night and morning for a few days, is certainly very effective.

Then, too, honey with equal parts of common soap makes a drawing plaster for boils, felons and sores that is tremendously effective. Then for scalds and burns, honey and baking soda, equal parts, well spread

on, is a very cooling and healing application.

Then come the bees themselves—their stings are a very blessing to many who suffer from sciatic rheumatism, and old people afflicted with irritation of the bladder, and all its attendant discomforts, are greatly benefited by bee-stings. A few can be extracted from the bees and taken each morning and night; or let them sting you. The pain resulting is slight compared with the intolerance of the trouble.

Some authorities assert that the daily use of honey is an infallible preventive of gravel or stone in the bladder, by those predisposed to this affliction. Also such as have had, or may have, calculi in the kidneys, or in the gall-bladder—but of this I cannot state from personal observation. However, the remedy is certainly pleasant and well worth trying.

Yes, and do you know that for swollen, dropsical limbs, where even the toes are puffed and stiff, that if you let a bee sting the swollen parts a few times it will greatly relieve and sometimes entirely cure? "Ouch!"—no, you needn't fear, you'll hardly feel the sting. Just try it and report. It ought to be done every other day.

But I must stop right here, much as I dislike to do so, because so much can be said of the usefulness of bees and honey, but I fear my readers will think I'm an apiarist trying to sell colonies! But I'm not.

The Young Mother.

There is so much that young mothers should know in regard to the "before and after" that I would feel a personal responsibility for their safety did I not attempt to at least suggest ways and means by which the best interest of mother and child can be subserved.

A daily bath—first tepid, then cold water as can be comfortably borne, followed by brisk rubbing with a rough towel until the skin is in fine glow, is one of the most delightful sanitary measures, and must not be omitted. After it, full breathing exercise, lying flat on your back, on bed or lounge, taking full, deep inspirations for, say 10 minutes, then a comfortable walk of half an hour or more, after which general household duties can be engaged in.

The diet should consist largely of fruits and vegetables, little or no meat, coffee or tea; chocolate, milk or water instead.

Now, little woman, if you will follow

these directions you will feel amply repaid by the easy, natural confinement, healthy baby and pleasant recovery you will have. But don't be too smart and show how quickly you can "get up"—rather be a type of intelligent patience, and rest easily for a couple weeks before resuming oversight of your home. You will then be free of the usual backache and headache, and general lassitude of the "smarter" but less wise mamma who wishes to be considered more vigorous than her sisters.

Oh, it is these aches and pains that wear the spirit of the young mother, and patience of her attendants! How can a mother do justice to her helpless infant when she herself is so tortured! The evil is only intensified by the reflection that by reasonable, judicious rest after labor, all these discouraging results might have been entirely obviated!

Rhus Poisoning.

"As I live, it's erysiply! Why, who'd thought it in a boy so young?"

"Well, Mrs. Jones, I don't know. Had'n't we better send for the Doctor?"

"Mebby."

"Well, well, Tommy, how swelled up you are! Where have you been—what have you been doing?"

"Nothin'."

"O yes, you have, my boy. Come, tell me, that's a good boy. You don't need any medicine;" (at which announcement the boy at once becomes communicative, and admits his effort to borrow from his neighbor's apple orchard).

By this time his face was puffed red, smarting vigorously, and eyes nearly closed. With a view to teaching the boy a lesson in case of accidents, I directed him to get the baking soda, and mixing a tablespoonful with enough water and flour to make it the consistency of thick cream, I showed him how to apply it over all the "welts" he had—on face and body, and then lie down and keep still. This application soon relieved the smarting and swelling, and by next day it was much better, and in a few days entirely recovered of what was supposed was erysipelas, but in reality only poison-oak (Rhus) poisoning. Some persons are exceedingly sensitive to the pollen of this plant—others can roll in it with impunity.

Great Premiums on page 92!



CONDUCTED BY

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS.

The Season in Texas So Far.

As 50 or more have asked me to keep close watch of this locality this year, and report, I will say that it has been all heart could wish as far as honey is concerned. We had a good honey-flow in April, one in May, and one in June, and it still continues.

Don't ask me what land is worth—we have taken real estate out of "In Sunny Southland." But, all of this country is free for bee-keeping. You do not need to own land. I will give all the principal honey-plants, quality of honey, and all the information I can before this year runs out; so if you wish to learn all about bees in this locality, also the flowers, watch "In Sunny Southland." This is what this department is for—to keep you informed on the South. I am getting reports from nearly all sections of the South, which will appear later on.

JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Something About Criticisms.

I have been noticing for some weeks back in the "Old Reliable," some friendly criticisms, and I think we all need such occasionally, or I think I do, at least. I have been so very busy that I could not well take time to offer a reply, and I thought sometimes may be it might be best for me to keep silent, as I might get into trouble. Then comes Mr. Hutchinson, in the *Review*, and says it is criminal to remain silent, or something like that.

Mister Somebody (I have forgotten who, but I'm sure he's a friend, though) thinks I ought to stop calling people "Friend" So-and-So. Now, look here Mister, if you wish to see or hear of Jennie Atchley laying down her pen and pencil forever in behalf of the public, just get all bee-keepers to say this, and

down she goes. I take everybody to be my friend who corresponds with me, or has dealings with me in any way. Then why call people nick-names?

There are only two things that every person can be towards me or any other person—these two things are—you are either my friend or my foe. Then, if you are my foe, do I expect you to do business with me? No. Then you are my friend, and I have a right to call you such. You are *for* me or *against* me.

Then, again, I have before me a little book that lies on my table most of the time, and this little book I take as my guide through life. It is the Bible (a small one), and I have read and re-read its pages, and I can't find "Mister" in it. I do not find Mister Christ, Mister John, Mister Abraham, etc. Then, as I do not find it in my guide-book, I do not care to pick it up outside, to use in a general way. I do not object to the word, particularly, and *must* admit that it comes in nice in speaking of nobles or strangers, sometimes. But Mister is only a picked-up word, or what we sometimes call a "by-word."

I wish right here to relate a little incident in life where I used to hear the word "Mister," and it sounds to me spiteful to this day. It was at the forks of the road, that I used to walk through the woods to school three miles, when a girl. Well, at the forks of this road, which was about half way home, a good portion of the school parted, and right at that spot I have often seen and heard little childish rows—such as school children used to have about little, trifling matters, just such as we are now having about Mister; and that word still rings in my ears to-day, when I think about it, as the offended ones parted and said, "Never mind, Mister! I'll tell the teacher on you in the morning!"

Now, do you see the proper place for Mister, in a common way? Never did I hear, "Never mind, my friend," etc.

Ah, my friends, let us quit being stuck up, and let the people all know who read our bee-papers, that we are *friends*; and whenever a bee-keeper does not wish me to call him or her "Friend," I will always say Mr. or Mrs., if they will let me know it.

Why, I have read somewhere, that our noble George Washington would rather be called "George" than "Mr. Washington." I have noticed lately that Rev. W. F. Clarke and Dr. Miller have been wrestling over something of the same nature. Friends, let's stop this business in print. Where are we

drifting? If you are Bill Jones, and somebody writes about you and calls you Bill Jones, for the sake of good people, laugh about it, and in a good, old, friendly way call him Dan Smith back, if that's his name.

I love good company and good society, but when I see some one trying to be too polite to be comfortable in society, then I feel tired. (By the grace of God I am what I am.) JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Another Fine Bee County.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—I have taken five tons of honey from 50 colonies so far, and expect more. J. B. CASE.

Port Orange, Fla., June 25.

Bro. Case, let us feel proud of our Southern homes. Some bees here have gathered more than 200 pounds, to date, of fine honey per colony, and four months yet to work in. Good for Sunny Southland! JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Random Paragraphs.

We have had a steady honey-flow since April 1st, and still it comes.

Did you notice how bright *Gleanings* shines lately? *Gleanings* has always been good, but it seems to be getting better all the time.

We would like to have bee-keepers enough here to produce ten carloads of honey next year, that has gone to waste this year, just for want of bees and people to take care of it.

There is no rose without its thorns. I do believe there are more ants here than any place I ever saw. We are obliged to keep our honey in almost air-tight vessels to keep them out. Then we have what is termed here the "third party flea." These fleas come about the time the third party started out, hence they are termed third party fleas, and they do bite, sometimes. But, all in all, we have a pleasant country.

Now, Dr. Miller, you have upset my work again. It just looks as if you are not satisfied unless you are opposing somebody. Now, you ought to know that our bees in the South cap their honey sooner after the nearly full super is raised on top of an empty one. Yes, Doctor, I think the bees down here do seal up the top tier of sections a heap

quicker, if the colony is good and strong, and honey is coming in fast. I'll get even with you in some way!

JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Invitation.

I have entered at last the County of Bee,
Remote but not far from the branch of the
sea,
The great and long-traversed Gulf of
Mexico,
Into which mighty rivers incessantly flow.

The climate is fine,
The soil superfine,
The ladies are charming,
And almost divine;
And the musical bees,
And the shady oak trees,
Invite you and me
To the County of Bee.

Though distant, remote from the homes of
the men,
Who secured for us all with the sword and
the pen,
The freedom to go where, and live where
we please,
Come, come to the County of Bee and the
bees;

Whose skies are auspicious,
Whose fruits are delicious,
Whose ladies are lovely,
Whose men are ambitious.
Thy future is grand,
Thy prairies are fanned
By gales from the sea,
O County of Bee!

Do not of the author of this impromptu
sonnet
Say winking, "He has a bee in his bonnet;"
He does not imagine any more than is due,
To the county that humming and buzzing
greets you.

And the exquisite flowers,
That sweeten its hours,
And the ladies that cheer
All dull days of ours;
And the birds, and the bees,
And the shady oak trees,
Invite you and me
To the County of Bee.

Bee County, Tex.

R. S. FOSTER.

Capons and Caponizing, by

Edward Warren Sawyer, M. D., Fanny Field, and others. It shows in clear language and illustrations all about caponizing fowls; and thus how to make the most money in poultry-raising. Every poultry-keeper should have it. Price, postpaid, 30 cents; or clubbed with **BEE JOURNAL** one year for \$1.10.



Bleaching Comb Honey.

Query 932.—1. Can comb honey be bleached by any method, without impairing its flavor?

2. If so, what is the method?—Colo.

1. No.—J. H. LARRABEE.

1. I think not.—M. MAHIN.

1. I think not.—S. I. FREEBORN.

1. Not that I know of.—J. E. POND.

1. Not that I know of.—C. C. MILLER.

1. I do not know.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

1. None that I know of.—G. L. TINKER.

1. I don't know of any.—H. D. CUTTING.

1. Not that I know of.—P. H. ELWOOD.

1. Yes. 2. In the sun.—JAS. A. STONE.

1 and 2. I don't know.—MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

1. I do not know of any method.—J. P. H. BROWN.

1. By none that I am acquainted with.—EUGENE SECOR.

1. I think not. At least I know of none.—A. J. COOK.

1 and 2. It bleaches by being exposed to the light.—E. FRANCE.

1. I don't know. What do you wish to bleach it for?—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

1 and 2. Let the sun bleach and ripen it in a warm, dry room.—W. M. BARNUM.

1. I think it is very doubtful. 2. I don't know. Do you?—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

1. I do not think anything practical can be done in this direction.—J. A. GREEN.

1. I never before heard of "bleaching" honey. I don't think I understand the question.—R. L. TAYLOR.

1 and 2. I know of no way of bleaching; but by putting honey in a dry, warm room, where it will not freeze, as

the nectar thickens it will recede from the cappings, and the farther away the caps are from the honey, the whiter will be the appearance.—MRS. J. N. HEATER.

I think there is no way of bleaching comb honey. But why bleach it? Better sell it for just what it is.—C. H. DIBERN.

1 and 2. I do not know of any. Why should one spend his time in such unprofitable work, anyway?—EMERSON T. ABBOTT.

We wish some one would invent a method to bleach honey-dew, for it would sell well if it were not for the color.—DADANT & SON.

1. It cannot be done. Light-colored honey, if the bee-keeper knows his business, will always be finished up white, or fine cream tinted, and needs no bleaching; while if the honey is dark or reddish in color, very white capping exaggerates it.—G. W. DEMAREE.

CONVENTION DIRECTORY.

Time and place of meeting.

1894.
 Aug. 1.—Central California, at Hanford, Calif.
 J. F. Flory, Sec., Lemoore, Calif.
 Aug. 16.—East Tennessee, at Whitesburg, Tenn.
 H. F. Coleman, Sec., Sneedville, Tenn.
 Oct. 16-18.—North American, St. Joseph, Mo.
 Frank Benton, Sec., Washington, D. C.
 Sept. 11-13.—Nebraska State, at Lincoln.
 L. D. Stilson, Sec., York, Nebr.
 Sept. 15.—S. E. Kansas, at Bronson, Kan.
 J. C. Balch, Sec., Bronson, Kans.
 1895.
 Jan. 28.—Venango Co., at Franklin, Pa.
 C. S. Pizer, Sec., Franklin, Pa.
 Feb. 8, 9.—Wisconsin, at Madison, Wis.
 J. W. Vance, Cor. Sec., Madison, Wis.

[E] In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of the time and the place of each future meeting.—THE EDITOR.

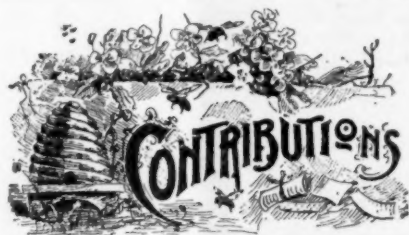
North American Bee-Keepers' Association

PRES.—Emerson T. Abbott...St. Joseph, Mo.
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National Bee-Keepers' Union.

PRESIDENT—Hon. R. L. Taylor...Lapeer, Mich.
 GEN'L MANAGER—T. G. Newman, Chicago, Ill.
 147 South Western Avenue.

Read our great offers on page 94.



Managing Bees.

Comb Honey and Prevention of Increase by Swarming.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY T. I. DUGDALE.

As a producer of comb honey, I have been asked to write for publication a description of the way I manage my bees to secure a honey crop without increasing the original number of colonies.

Before giving the plan in detail, I will say that although I do not remember ever having seen it in print, still it may not be entirely new to some; and I will say further, that it was not the absolute prevention of swarming I had in view when I began to experiment along this line some years ago, but to know what to do to accomplish the best results when the bees did swarm, which they are almost sure to do sooner or later regardless of all that has been said and done thus far to prevent it.

Neither do I find that bees of any particular race or color—be it black, yellow or grey—are entirely exempt from swarming, when the colonies are sufficiently strong in numbers, and the honey-flow abundant. It is their natural way of increase, has been so from the beginning of time, and I never expect to see it overcome in my day; so, after much thought and experiment along the line of prevention, with but little prospect of success, I turned my labors to the other side of the question, and set about devising a course to pursue when swarming did occur.

But bearing in mind that it is honey I am after, and not increase, of course I employ all known rules which tend to prevent it—such as giving abundant room in the sections, which should at least be supplied with starters of foundation, and at the commencement of the season, if a few sections filled with clean, empty comb can be placed in the

center of the crate or super, so much the better; this, with room for the queen to lay in the brood-chamber, ample entrance for ventilation, together with shade, etc.—these, and perhaps other minor details, may be of some service in securing the end desired.

After observing all these precautions, and perhaps getting the bees nicely started at work in the sections, how provoking to see them drop work and send out a rousing big swarm! It has been recommended under such circumstances to open the hive, remove all queen-cells, and return the swarm to the parent colony; but after thoroughly testing this plan, I find that in very few cases does it amount to anything so far as securing honey is concerned, than to have allowed the swarm to have gone to the woods, and have done with it at once, provided the queen, should she be a valuable one, could be saved, as it is usually only a question of from a few hours to a few days when they will again pour out, and while they do stay in they only sulk and accomplish nothing, and, if the above plan is repeated several times, are almost sure to kill the old queen, and again come out with a young one; and even if one does succeed in getting them to remain at home, the colony usually does but little work until a new force of bees hatch and become old enough to carry on the labors of the hive. By this time the harvest is usually over, the season drawing to a close, and but little honey to reward the owner for the promising outlook at the beginning of the season.

Now I want to say that the plan which I am about to give is not patented, neither is it necessary to buy a cent's worth of traps or fixin's to put it into successful operation, provided, of course, you have an empty hive and a few extra frames on hand.

To begin with, then, let us suppose that the reader has the bees in the dove-tailed hive, or any other style which is capable of being tiered up. They are to be supplied with sections at the beginning of the honey-flow, or sooney if they are strong enough to occupy them. In case the colony should, in due time, cast a swarm first, secure the old queen, which can be accomplished either by having one wing clipped so she cannot fly, or by using a trap on the entrance to the hive. Next, while the swarm is in the air, remove the old brood-chamber, combs and all, from the stand, and replace it with another filled with empty combs, full sheets of foundation, or

starters, as you choose, or whichever you are best supplied with. Now remove the crate of sections from the old hive, and put them in place on the new one, on the old stand, and if the cover to the hive is a flat one, put it on also.

By this time, the bees will in many cases have missed their queen, and without clustering will be returning home. Allow them to enter the hive prepared for them, and if the queen has been caged release her (provided her wing is clipped); but if she is caught in a queen-trap without being clipped, adjust the trap to the new hive, then release the queen, leaving the trap in place until satisfied that the colony has commenced work in earnest, otherwise they might desert and leave for parts unknown.

Then take the hive containing the old combs of brood and honey, together with the bees which were left behind, and set it on top of the new hive, thus making the top of the new hive serve as a bottom for the old one; put a cover on this, and give them an entrance at one end, and the work for the present is done.

Next, keep a record of the date on which this colony swarmed, and if you wish to rear some queens, and the cells left in the old colony are from choice stock, here is your chance. Bore a one-inch hole in each side of the top hive for an entrance, divide the colony into three parts, giving say two combs of brood and honey and one queen-cell to each—this will probably leave sufficient room to insert the extra division-boards required to keep each one of these lots of bees separate.

We now have three nucleus colonies, which in due time should furnish a laying queen each (barring accident, of course). I usually divide up the old colony in from four to five days after the swarm issues, as they sometimes "hang fire;" that is, they do not, on account of bad weather or other causes, come out as soon as the first cell is capped, hence if we wait until the seventh or eighth day, we may get either a second swarm or lose all our queen-cells by their being torn open by the first young queen that hatches. With this plan I find that this latter is the most apt to happen, as but few old field-bees remain in the old hive, so there is but little honey coming in, which is as we want it at this time.

If your hive is not large enough to contain all the combs of the old colony with the added division-boards, remove a frame or two and add them to some other colony, if they contain brood.

If you do not wish to rear any queens,

destroy all the queen-cells in the old colony, allowing none to hatch, and when the swarm has become fairly established in the new hive (which they will usually do in four or five days, and be working like beavers), the brood in the old hive may be used to build up weak colonies, if one should have any, or, in case they are not needed for that purpose, and the swarm was hived on only starters, they may be replaced in the under hive, bees and all, and the frames containing starters removed and saved for the next swarm.

By this time, if honey has been coming in freely, a good start will usually have been made in the sections, which will in most cases now be carried on till completed.

Yet another way is to allow no queen to hatch in the old hive, and allow it to remain until all brood hatches, which will be in about three weeks, and having placed a queen-excluding honey-board between the two hives, which will allow the bees to unite, we extract all honey from the combs, leaving them empty for future use. I would only recommend this latter plan where empty combs or full sheets of foundation are used to hive the swarm on, as there is often too much drone-comb built to be allowed to remain in the hive where starters only are used and the bees allowed to build their own combs.

The above plan will give fine results if carried out carefully, and I have endeavored to make it so plain that none need to meet with a failure, it would seem to me, and any intelligent person will at once see that it is capable of so many modifications as to be available in almost any emergency that may arise during the swarming season, and only requiring the outlay for a few extra hive-bodies and extra frames for the same, while a few extra combs are always good property for a bee-keeper to have on hand.

I hope that some of the clan who have tried other methods only to be disappointed, will give this a trial, and I fear not but what they will be pleased with it, as it keeps the working force of bees just where we want them, and does away with after-swarms entirely, while we retain the energy and vim usually shown by a new swarm.

West Galway, N. Y., July 5.

One-Cent Postage Stamps we prefer whenever it is necessary to send stamps for fractions of a dollar. By remembering this, you will greatly oblige us.

A Characteristic of Good Queens.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY DR. G. L. TINKER.

At least one of the points in a valuable queen may be determined by her form of development, and as everything bearing upon the rearing of good queens should be known, I will give one that I have not heretofore seen any notice of in our bee-papers.

Queen-breeders especially, should know what development in a queen will give the greatest strength and activity to her workers, since there is as much or more in having strong and energetic bees as there is in any other one thing. We may have ever so good a honey-flow, and the best of management, and with weak flying, lazy bees we will fail of a good crop.

Mr. Henry Alley well says that some strains of bees are "constitutionally weak," and I fully agree with him. Now the question arises, if this is so, how are we to tell that a given colony of bees are weak and inferior?

With man and all animals a large, deep and well-developed chest or thorax is evidence, first, of good vitality, and secondly, of great strength and endurance. But on examination of worker-bees by the unaided eye, to determine this point is impossible so far as I am able to judge. In the size of the thorax of the queen, however, the practiced eye can readily detect a great difference. For some strains of queens, no matter how well they may be reared, have relatively small chests, while other strains are characterized by large, well-developed chests.

Now I have observed that the bees of a colony having a small-chested queen are not good workers, and especially are they weak upon the wing. They gather comparatively little honey, and are practically worthless.

Strong-flying bees may be known by their flight on the cool days of spring. Few, if any, will be found chilled and lying upon the ground in front of the hive, while the workers of a weak queen will be found lying thick all about the entrance, and they rarely take wing again.

If I were to be asked what is the best single point in a good queen-bee, the answer would be—"a large, well-developed thorax." And the reason is plain—the muscles moving the wings are all located in the chest, and the larger the

chest, the larger must be these muscles, and the stronger the wing-power of every worker-bee reared from such queens, since the worker-bee in general form of development invariably takes after the queen-mother.

New Philadelphia, Ohio.

Bees in Kentucky—Other Matters.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY G. W. DEMAREE.

After so much discouraging weather, the present month (June), came in more favorable to our bees. The white clover crop, our only chance for surplus honey, is far below the average in quantity, but it seems to be rich with the precious sweets, and our bees are gathering a surplus, but the weather now (June 23rd) is too hot for the best results in honey gathering. For the past three or four days the temperature has reached from 94° to 98° in the shade, in the heat of the day, and the bees have clustered badly on the outsides of the hives. I have often noticed that very hot weather is unfavorable to a liberal flow of nectar.

The honey harvest will be too short here, to give us more than a very light crop of honey taken with the honey extractor. There will be less comb honey here this season than in any season of the past, as far as I can remember, and the crop must be short all around. This is unfortunate in a year of scarcity of fruits of all kinds. I hate to have to do it, but I shall have to raise the price on my honey this season, to help out the short yield, eh?

THE PERFORATED QUEEN-EXCLUDER.

The general use of the perforated queen-excluder only awaits a more thorough knowledge of its advantages and possibilities. With the use of this valuable help in apiary manipulation, all the elements must be against the production of honey, if I fail to get some honey, taken with the extractor.

If the queen was permitted to follow her instincts, and invade with her domestic affairs, the surplus departments of the hives in a slow season like this, there would really be but little honey in hope to be taken with the extractor.

In fact, with the queen-excluder, swarming is controlled completely in my apiary by raising the sealed brood above the excluder. In some cases only a few of the frames of brood removed from the

breeding department, and empty combs put in their places, will check the inclination to swarm. In other cases, after the swarming impulse has taken hold of the bees, nearly the whole of the brood must be raised above the excluder to cure the swarming fever. We sometimes handle combs that contain brood when extracting, but we have this advantage—they contain no unsealed brood. But as a general rule, having plenty of surplus combs to "tier up," as fast as the bees may need the room, we do not take the honey until all the young bees are hatched out, and the combs are well filled (and sealed) with honey.

CLOSE-FITTING FRAMES AGAIN.

Self-interest, I presume, on the part of some of our friends, will keep up the interest in behalf of the worst of misconceptions—"close-fitting frames."

A few weeks ago I transferred a colony of bees from one of these close-fitting frame hives, and it was full of ant-nests at the *close ends*, and the frames were so "stuck up" that I had to pry the frames apart to get them out.

At the same time I transferred several colonies from Langstroth hives, that had badly built combs, and in every case I found the bee-spaces all opened, and the inside of the hives sweet and clean. What a practical lesson is this! The longer I work with hives and bees, the more thoroughly I am convinced that the common hanging frame gives the minimum of labor and vexation.

When it becomes necessary to make the frames stationary, in case of moving hives some distance, a very simple device can be used to hold the frames temporarily until its use is no longer needed.

QUALITY OF HONEY.

I would be pleased if Mr. McKnight would repeat for himself *my experiments* referred to by him on page 818, viz.: Select combs from one-third to half sealed; first extract the thin unsealed nectar, and put it by itself; then uncap and extract the sealed parts of the combs, and store it by itself, and treat the two divisions in the usual way, and keep them for observation. With Mr. McKnight's intelligence, he will not fail to see that the mere *expulsion of the surplus water* in the nectar is not all that there is in the process of so-called "ripening of honey."

To get genuine virgin honey it must be evaporated in the warm, sweet, formic-acid, disinfected current of air, that is found nowhere else but in the

bee-hives. But nobody knows better than a lawyer how hard it is to decide a matter against one's own interest, or *apparent* interest. It is much cheaper to extract the honey when thin and unsealed, and this consideration weighs heavily to the short-sighted. This short-sighted "evaporated honey" business will ultimately bring the price of honey taken with the extractor down to glucose prices.

DARWIN AND BEES.

That paragraph concerning Darwin and bees, which plays a part in that little review of mine published on page 593, seems to have stirred up some of my good friends, as it has brought me some friendly expostulations, and now my friend, Allen Pringle, of Canada, asks me to "particularize"—perhaps make some apology! The paragraph, it seems to me, is clear enough to be understood. In itself it was merely incidental, falling in line with the subjects reviewed in my article.

Darwin wrote learnedly and exhaustively about many things that he, nor no one else, could demonstrate, but when he wrote of bees—matters which can be practically demonstrated—he blundered like other mortals! I could not enter into "particulars," for this would open up a discussion foreign to the specialty of this journal, and the Editor, friendly as he is, would stop me.

Judging by the earnest but friendly letters I have received since writing that offending paragraph, together with the concern manifested by Mr. Pringle, our friends are *jealous* of the reputation of Darwin! What has Dr. Darwin done for this world, that he is watched over with such tender care? He has unsettled the faith of some, and set them adrift in the "mazes lost." But he has not lifted up a single fallen mortal, nor taken the strain off of a breaking heart, nor hushed a convulsing sob, or dried a burning tear, in all this world of woes, which (the whole creation) "groans and travails in pain to be delivered." Some of us look for a better "age" than this, and we know that it will never be "built up from the dust."

Our friends *trust* Darwin! We look for the Lord from the Heavens. But we are the enemies of nothing in this world except the sins peculiar to mankind, and "which beset us."

I think, under the circumstances, this much ought to be written in any publication; and what is said here, needs no answer, and no reply.

Christiansburg, Ky.

[We think Bro. Demaree is quite right, in hinting that an investigation of the theories of Darwin as to bees, would "open up a discussion foreign to the specialty" of the BEE JOURNAL. Of course, all will admit that Darwin was a great student of Nature, but it must be remembered that he was also *human*, and liable to err as do all men. The published results of his researches are open to all, and by his writings it can be judged whether or not his theories about bees were correct. All who are interested can procure those published works, read them, and then decide for themselves.—EDITOR.]

An Experience with Bee-Paralysis.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY W. A. THOMPSON.

In the BEE JOURNAL of June 14th I am quoted as recommending "changing the queen" as a cure for bee-paralysis; also mentioned as an "experienced apiarist." Well, I suppose "experienced," like "good," is a relative word.

In the spring of 1893 one colony of my bees had a bad attack of bee-paralysis. The bees were in a new dove-tailed hive resting on four bricks, giving a free circulation of air underneath the hive. It was one of the strongest colonies I had, and all the eight frames were well filled with brood, but very little honey in the frames. The bottom-board in front of the hive was covered night and day with the bees trying to get rid of the sick bees, that were ravenously hungry, although their shiny, black abdomens were distended almost to bursting.

As the field-bees came in, the sick bees would meet them and beg for food. On the ground in front of the hive was a mass of dead and dying bees about 15 inches in diameter, and perhaps two inches deep. If the other colonies got the same disease, good-bye to any honey.

I made up my mind to study the disease a little, and see if I could get the best of it. First, going through my bee-books, I found Mr. Heddon claimed that the cause was in the queen, and recommended changing the queen. I had a fine young queen in a two-frame nucleus, and after killing the queen of

the diseased hive, I took out two frames from one side and replaced them with the frames from the nucleus—bees, queen and all—placing the queen against the side of the hive.

I found that the sick bees driven away from their own hive, were trying to enter the hives nearest, and were begging food of any field-bees that fell on the ground as they came in laden with honey, and that the field-bees would stop and feed them, no matter what hive the field-bees belonged to. If the disease was contagious, here was an easy way to carry it from one hive to another. The question came up, How can I prevent the sick bees from getting into other hives, or coming in contact with the field-bees of other hives?

After thinking the matter over, I concluded to put the diseased hive, and the other hives within 15 feet, on top of barrels, and under the front of the diseased hive place something to catch the bees as they were pushed off the bottom-board in front of the hive.

First cleaning away the dead and dying bees from the front of the hive and burning them up, I placed the hive on a barrel, and put on the ground in front of the hive an iron pan about three feet square, and with sides about three inches deep. The quivering motion of the sick bees' wings enabled them to crawl rapidly over the surface, but they could not get over the raised sides. Every morning I went out and burned up the bees in the pan, generally finding from one-half a pint to a pint of bees.

The bees in the diseased hive were one-fourth Italians, with no light bands. The new queen was a pure Italian. In five weeks from the time I put her in, all the old bees had disappeared, and so had the disease. Although it was late in the honey season, I got over 30 sections from that colony. The disease did not spread to any other hive.

Since then I met an apiarist from the center of the State. He told me his hives were on a side hill; that one of the hives in the top row got the disease, and it spread down the hill through his apiary, and he lost a great many colonies of bees.

To sum up: Raise the diseased hive and others around it about three feet from the ground; place under the alighting-board of the diseased hive something that will catch the sick bees, and burn them up every day. Change the queen, and feed liberally to help her to replace the dead bees as fast as possible with healthy brood. I think the burning of

the dead bees a very essential part of the treatment. Will some bee-keeper try the method in full—not half of it—and report results?

Asheville, N. C., June 18.

Bees and Honey-Plants in Utah.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY E. S. LOVESY.

Among other questions of late, I have had many inquiries on the matters indicated by the subject of this article. As I have before stated, lucerne, sweet clover, and Rocky Mountain bee-plant are some of the principal honey-plants here. We also have sweet willow, locust, fruit-bloom, and others. The lucerne has been in bloom here since the first of this month; further south, it is earlier. The sweet clover comes in early in July, generally remaining in bloom more or less for about three months. The Rocky Mountain bee-plant is a fall plant.

The bees do not always work on the lucerne to the extent that they are doing now, for in many localities they are booming. I have several colonies now with over 100 pounds of new honey in their hives, gathered principally from lucerne, and some of them are colonies that I have divided, and I have also taken some brood from them to build up weak ones. While some of those weak ones are building up now, I do not know if it will pay me or not. The reason I have them with me, is that on the morning of the first of May one of my neighbors had a large frame barn burned down, and my bees were burnt with it, leaving a few bees in about one-third of the hives. While I felt badly to lose them, I feel worse to have them destroyed by fire, and just at a time that the honey harvest is commencing.

In this connection, allow me to ask a question—Is there such a thing as luck? Does everything go by chance? For four years we fought the ants until we got the best of them by a method published in the BEE JOURNAL last September. Then two years ago last winter we lost the most of our bees by the long, hard winter, and now a poor, miserable fire-bug, through his enmity to some one else, applies the torch to us! But I am drifting from the subject of honey-plants.

While the bees are working well on the lucerne now, they sometimes work more on the sweet clover at the time that the second and third crop of lu-

cerne is in bloom. Then, besides its virtue as a honey-plant, for a forage plant lucerne is by far the most valuable of anything that grows in this country. While we do not pretend to affirm what this plant would do in all parts of the country, we are positive it will do well any place south of Utah, especially where it is moderately dry and warm. I think it will grow all right in many parts of the East and West, unless the climate is very wet. But we find the real trouble is, in a large portion of the West and Southwest, the climate is not wet enough. It looks to me that if Western Nebraska, Kansas, and portions of Texas could adopt a system of irrigation, it would be of vast benefit to them. It would have a tendency to change the climate in those places, and by planting trees after awhile they could possibly have artesian wells where there is no water now. Conditions have changed to that extent in some places here.

Utah was less than half a century ago a dry, barren, and forbidden waste, left to the deer, the wolf and the bear, and a few poor Indians who lived by hunting the animals that I have named. Utah was called the "Great American Desert," and it was supposed to be an utter impossibility to grow or produce any vegetable life. When the first company of Utah pioneers passed through what is now known as the State of Wyoming, in 1847, James Bridger and others told them that they were going out on a desert to starve. He told them that he would give them \$100 for the first ear of corn that they could raise.

Contrast this with what we behold now. The roses are in bloom, and the earth is covered with trees, green fields and fruits, and the little busy bees are making things hum as they rush to and fro to gather the sweets from the many flowers. Thus we see that what was once the "Great Desert," is now full of life and animation; and this system of irrigation has been the main-spring towards accomplishing these results. Now, then, if it has done so much for Utah and other places, could its benefits not be extended to still other places where it has not yet been tried? The first 20 years in the history of Utah, before we had many trees, there was little or no rain in the month of June, extending back to Nebraska and Kansas. Would it not be possible to get water out of the Platte, the Republican, or the Arkansas rivers? If it can be done, I can assure our friends living there that

it would be a good, paying investment, and it would be worth trying.

I believe that this system of irrigation is still in its infancy, even here in Utah. If some methods could be adopted to save, to store, or to hold the waters from running to waste, until it would be needed for use, much greater results could be accomplished. But as the people become more interested, there is no telling what may be accomplished. I am not sure but that great, uncontrollable, muddy Missouri, that is now running rampant down through the Mississippi valley, could, perhaps at a great expense, be brought down through the Dakotas, Western Nebraska, and Kansas, and possibly down into Texas. If this could be done, who could estimate the millions it would be worth to the country?

I notice some discouraging reports on account of cold and wet weather. While we are having an unusually wet June for this country, there is no danger of getting more rain than we need. The prospect for a good honey-flow is encouraging.

Our bee-keepers are troubled with ants and yellow jackets or wasps. If any of our friends know of anything that will destroy them, we would be very glad to hear from them. We can keep the ants off of the hives, but we have too many to destroy by any method that we have as yet heard of.

Salt Lake City, Utah, June 19.

"A Dearth of Honey"—Suggestions.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY "BEN THERE."

That's been the cry nearly every season of late, and who's fault is it? Now, don't lay it to the weather, the rains, the "cold snaps," or to any other natural cause than *yourself*! The good Lord has provided everything just as it should be, for the good of man and bees; the difficulty is to be found in the first animal mentioned.

It seems, in the majority of instances, that the want of proper knowledge and its judicial application is responsible for the "dearth." Just take a look at the premises of most farmers who aspire to keep bees! What surrounds them that could encourage bees to do well—to lay up for themselves and their keeper a nice lot of exceedingly tempting honey,

fit for the delicious bread that his thrifty wife bakes every other day? Does his front yard look like it? The house is surrounded with "planten," quack-grass and burdock, except here and there a big bare spot that the dog lies in to cool. Where a beautiful lawn ought to be, "pussley" and weeds abound. Where white clover and mellilot should make the air redolent with sweetest perfume, the stench of decaying vegetation would paralyze a Chinaman! Where roses, honey-suckles and hollyhocks should be in abundance to beautify and cheer the home that the "women folks" work so hard to improve, there the festive mul-len raises its head toward the eves, and the wild buckwheat clings and thrives for next year's ample seeding.

Go just beyond, into what the leige calls his orchard, and what conditions do you observe? Apple trees big enough to bear bushels, and feed colonies on their fragrant blooms, dying from suckers and borers! Dead limbs left as skeletons to bleach with the suns of years. The ground in which the trees stand is covered with briars and brambles that a goat would not deign to tramp through. Is it any wonder that a place so bereft of flowers, shade and fruit, should afford little substance for honey? Why, if it were not that the busy bees steal substance from his neighbors, they would themselves starve to death!

And what is the remedy? *Common-sense and earnest work!* Root out your weeds; manure plentifully; let the plow in deep; harrow well, and sow on enough white clover seed on both orchard and lawn. Let the children sprinkle all the soap-suds to make fast growth; borrow a knitting-needle, look up the borers' holes, and push the needle in—it will do its work. Carefully cut off all the suckers and dead limbs; lay bare the neck of the trees, and put around each a good, big shovel full of those ashes you have near the house—they will manure and add new life to the trees, and make it mighty uncomfortable for the next crop of borers.

In fact, use your common-sense and energy; then will blossoms come, bees thrive, honey plenty, fruit in abundance, and the family rejoice at the greatly improved appearance of the dear old homestead. You will be the wonder and the envy of your good old neighbors. They will look over the fence, admire, and feel impelled to imitate your good example. Methinks I hear them exclaim, "Verily, Brother Jones hath

taken upon himself a veritable 'hustle!' Great is Bro. Jones!"

So do, and I pledge you a sweeter smile from the dear wife, and greater admiration from the children. Selah!

North East, Ill.



The Cortland Union Convention.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY C. W. WILKINS.

On account of the inclemency of the weather on the day appointed for the meeting of our association with Mr. Houghlin, of South Cortland, N. Y., it was postponed until June 6, 1894.

The morning of the day designated dawned bright and beautiful. The roads were in fair condition. The atmosphere was pregnant with ozone, stimulating the weak, and giving greater vigor to the strong. Indeed, all nature seemed to speak, and in verbal concert announce the proximity of not only a more pleasant and a more beautiful day than it had been our privilege to behold for three weeks, but it also seemed to whisper, in tones both sweet and musical to the ears of the apiarist, "You will have the most enjoyable and profitable meeting it has ever been your privilege to attend."

Did we realize in fact what we anticipated in theory? As "actions speak louder than words," any beholder of the scene of pleasure, gayety, and spirited interchange of ideas, would have turned away without asking a word, confident of the unimpeachable success of the meeting.

As we neared the residence of Mr. Houghlin, the most casual observer would be impressed with the fact that he was not only entering a prosperous farming community, but was entering the home of one of the "kings of the profession," who through industry, frugality and perseverance had made himself an example by whose experience all might learn a valuable lesson.

After a *very* pleasant morning spent in social intercourse, the company were invited to a most excellent lunch, to which all did ample justice, with the unflagging vigor of "the little busy bee." From personal experience, I should say that all got up from the bountiful repast with a far more uncomfortable feeling in the body, but a more satisfied condition of mind than they entered the dining hall.

At the invitation of Mr. Houglin, all were very pleasantly entertained in walking out to the apiary of some 85 colonies of bees, which appeared to be in fine condition, considering the very bad weather for the preceding three weeks. The guests were also much pleased in looking over the well-kept grounds, interspersed with many heavily laden fruit-trees.

The company tardily repaired to the sitting rooms, loth to leave such beautiful sights as Mr. Houglin's perfectly kept farm had afforded them.

The meeting was then called to order by President R. Wood, of Cortland. After the usual preliminaries, a vote of thanks was given Mr. and Mrs. Houglin for the elegant manner in which they had entertained the company, and their unequalled hospitality.

Discussion was opened by the President asking the company in succession for their opinion as to what the object of our association is. Was it a profitable investment. If so, what could we name that we had learned to-day, that had been of benefit to us.

In the remarks drawn out, it was shown that we had all received an object lesson to the effect that patience, frugality, and honest industry have their reward in this world. That mutual stimulus and lasting vigor was obtained by this social intercourse and exchange of ideas. In fact, object lessons were continually presenting themselves for our mental discussion.

After some other interesting discussions, the meeting adjourned *sine die*, and the company regretfully dispersed, sorry that a day of so much pleasurable enjoyment had drawn to a close, but feeling well paid for their journey, no matter how far circumstances had located them from such friends as Mr. and Mrs. Houglin.

Homer, N. Y. C. W. WILKINS, Sec.

A Binder for holding a year's numbers of the BEE JOURNAL we mail for only 50 cents; or clubbed with the JOURNAL for \$1.40.



Do not write anything for publication on the same sheet of paper with business matters, unless it can be torn apart without interfering with either part of the letter.

Light Honey Crop.

The honey crop is light in this locality, on account of the drouth.

GEO. W. PENN.

Carlisle, Iowa, July 10.

Alfalfa Yielding Freely.

The weather is extremely hot, and the alfalfa that is yet uncut and in bloom, is yielding honey freely—the best yield of the season so far.

R. H. RHODES.

Arvada, Colo., July 10.

Hardly Enough for Winter Stores.

No clover here, and the basswood bloom has come and gone. Its yield will hardly more than furnish the winter stores. The promise for fall bloom is not encouraging.

Buda, Ill., July 6.

C. COVELL.

Good Basswood Flow Expected.

Reports are favorable for a good flow of honey from basswood. Our bees have been gathering surplus honey from the basswood here in the city. It has now been out for a week, and is about that much earlier than the basswood in the forest. Bees do not belong to the A. R. U., and continue to work.

H. G. ACKLIN.

St. Paul, Minn., July 6.

Gathered Honey—Packing Bees.

The past was a wet and cold spring for bees, but in spite of the weather they have built up in fairly good condition, and have gathered quite a quantity of white clover honey. My apiary is run entirely for the production of comb honey, and I use the eight-frame dovetailed hive for summer. In winter, they are packed in home-made outside chaff cases, made out of pine lath. This case is large enough to allow a 2½ inch space on all sides, and 10 inches on top where chaff is most needed. The top is covered with tin. I use hayseed and buckwheat chaff for packing.

A. G. AMOS.

Delhi, N. Y., July 7.

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Sulphur Cure for Bee-Paralysis.

I have experimented with the sulphur cure for bee-paralysis, and believe it a success—at least it or something else has cured a very obstinate case for me. My plan of treatment was this:

I took a common pepper-box and filled it with pulverized sulphur, and gave the bees and combs a generous sprinkling of the sulphur. I was careful, however, to not sprinkle the uncapped brood. The third day after this application, I could see a marked improvement in the bees, and I then gave them another application of the sulphur, and within a week the cure seemed to be complete.

If sulphur does prove to be a specific for this dreaded disease, what a boon to beekeepers! And how simple and easy of application!

In my experience I have never seen bees do better at this season of the year than they are now doing in this locality. Basswood did fairly well, and sourwood is extra, and is now in its prime. It was thought one month ago that we would get no surplus honey this year, but a surplus is now assured.

H. F. COLEMAN.

Sneedville, Tenn., July 4.

Not Owner, but Manager.

One would naturally get the impression from my statement on page 25, that I am the owner of 250 colonies of bees. I neglected to put in that statement that I am manager for Mr. E. B. Ross, of two of his four apiaries. He has one at his home (Syracuse), one at Tully, one at Warner's, and one at Camillus—in all about 250 colonies in fine condition. I have full control of the Camillus and Warner's apiaries, seven miles apart.

Bees are doing finely at Warner's. I wish I could say the same of those at Camillus. Basswood is now in full bloom, and all may end well yet.

J. W. TEFFT.

Camillus, N. Y., July 5.

Ants—Report for 1893, Etc.

I got rid of the ants around my hives last year by rubbing pennyroyal around them where the ants were traveling; also a very kind bee-keeping friend wrote me to make a circle of coal-oil around the hives twice a week for two or three weeks. I tried this, and they disappeared. I used to correspond with this friend, and was successful in all that he told me.

In the spring of 1893 I started with 8 colonies, a few very weak. I had re-queened them all except one which proved to be extra good in 1892, although I had no record of the queen's age. Before swarming-time I found her with all drone-brood and a few queen-cells started, so I pinched the queen's head off, destroyed the cells, and gave them a cell of my best Italian.

My bees averaged 50 pounds of nice white honey in one-pound sections. The best I took 84 pounds from; this one contained a

queen from the South; and the worst gave me nothing. Any one reading this can see that I was in "ups and downs," just learning what bees are. Well, one Sunday in June, while I was at church, I heard that my bees were swarming. Well, thought I, they may just swarm, because I had the Alley trap at each hive. After church I went around the church corner in my yard, having seen the bees clustered on a high tree, so I came to the hive where the bees had swarmed out. This one swarmed the day before. I hived them on starters that time. I did not think of a frame of unsealed brood preventing swarming out; anyway this was a big, strong swarm, high on the tree. I left them without looking after the other hives, and soon they swarmed up and all around. Some went back, and a lot went across a large wheat field. Afterwards I learned that two swarms had been out. The trap was pushed a little from the hive.

Some time in August I found, or was told of, a large bee-tree, one-half mile from my home, which was not on the land where I was living. They seemed to be yellow bees. I started off to the manager of the farm, telling him that I came to buy one of their trees containing a swarm of bees. "Bees," said he; "if there are bees in, you can buy." He asked \$3.00 for all. I paid it, and went to see my brother-in-law, who is one of the very best fellows I can get to help with bees. The tree was a large oak, the hole 60 feet from the ground, where the bees were working in and out, so we were not bothered with the bees while sawing the tree down. At last it fell, and sounded very nearly like thunder. And then the sport went on! We could do nothing right where the wreck was for the first 20 minutes. A near neighbor came to see. He would not put a veil on, but went right there. Ofttimes I can keep from laughing about things, but I and no one else could keep from shouting, for he hustled like Old Mr. Blobbs, as shown in the BEE JOURNAL last fall. The way he had to run, and scrape—indeed, it was too bad!

Well, we had not to open much to see what it was. The honey was rolling and dripping. The combs had been mashed together, pieces lying here and there, and an awful muss of dead bees. We had a wash-boiler and few tin pans to get the honey in. The bees that were not killed were mostly on the wing, filled with honey. We could every now and then see a yellow drone, but no queen. We returned home with the honey we fished up. This was 20 pounds after it was strained.

The next morning I got up early to look after the bees where the wrecked tree was, and found them clustered all over a piece of wood containing a little bit of comb. I had fixed a case (or hive) with foundation, one frame of unsealed brood placed right where the bees were, and started them in. I left this there awhile, and then took the case and bees home, and soon learned that the queen was saved.

Well, I had the 20 pounds of honey to start them on with, and on Nov. 30th I had

a very good colony in the row with the others.

The tree and all cost me \$11.50. The lumber and wood is worth to me \$25, and I had the bees back again. This queen I bought in the South, which is truly a hardy race.

On Nov. 30th I had 17 colonies on the summer stands, with plenty of honey and no packing, only a soft board over them.

Brickerville, Pa. E. B. KAUFFMAN.

Bee-Veil—How to Make and Wear.

I herewith will tell how I make my bee-veil, as it may be useful to some.

I take a small wire and make a frame 7 inches by 8, wrapping the ends firmly with flax thread. Upon the side of this I sew silk tulle, stretch it to the opposite side all it will bear, and sew it; then on the side I sew and stretch it to the opposite. I now have a face veil that will not crease or fold, and as nearly invisible as it is possible to have it. I cut out of the veil and insert this so that it suspends nicely from the rim of my straw hat. It keeps it away from the face, and makes it pleasant and cool to examine the bees through.

Shall I give Mr. Hasty a suggestion? Have a deep veil. Get from your harness shop a narrow strap of sheepskin leather, with buckle; gather the back of the veil and sew it into this strap, the distance from shoulder to shoulder underneath the arm. Now make a slit in the veil to the top of the shoulder, and bind this around so that it will not fray out. At the back of the buckle sew a piece of silk elastic $\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide (you must measure the required length); to the other end sew on a large hook, and where it is needed on the other end of the leather strap sew on an eye. Now you see, when you put on the veil and buckle it around you, the front part of the veil will be loose. (There should be a piece sewn on to the front to lengthen it.) Now if the elastic is passed over this, and hooked into the eye, it keeps the veil drawn snug and tight in front, so that no bees can get under, and I think the hook and eye would be easier handled than the pin, as suggested by Miss Emma Wilson sometime ago.

Prosser, Nebr.

SIDNEY HARRIS.

"Foul Brood: Its Natural History and Rational Treatment," is the title of an interesting booklet by Dr. Wm. R. Howard, of Texas. It also contains a review of the work of others on the same subject. It is being sold at the office of the BEE JOURNAL. Price, postpaid, 25 cents; or clubbed with the BEE JOURNAL for one year—both together for \$1.15.

Honey as Food and Medicine is just the thing to help sell honey, as it shows the various ways in which honey may be used as a food and as a medicine. Try 100 copies of it, and see what good "salesmen" they are. See the second page of last number of the BEE JOURNAL for description and prices.

Honey & Beeswax Market Quotations.

ALBANY, N. Y., July 12.—The honey market is not fairly opened yet, but there is some demand and we think we are going to have good sales. We quote: White clover, new comb, 14c.; extracted, 7c. H. R. W.

BUFFALO, N. Y., May 14.—Trade is very slow, and we have still a liberal stock on hand. We quote: Fancy comb, 13@14c.; choice, 11@12c.; dark and common grades, 8@9c. Beeswax, 25@30c. B. & Co.

CHICAGO, ILL., May 10.—The market for comb honey is not of large volume at this season of the year; a fine article of white comb brings 15c. in pound sections. Extracted slow of sale, at 4@6c. Beeswax, 25c. R. A. B. & Co.

CHICAGO, ILL., Mar. 24.—The honey market will be very quiet for the balance of the season. We will not do much business until new honey comes in. We cannot quote prices but will obtain the best possible price on what little stock we will sell until early fall. Beeswax is very active at 25@26c. J. A. L.

CINCINNATI, O., June 19.—Demand is slow for all kinds of honey. The range of prices is 4@6c. for extracted, and 12@14c. for best white comb. There is no sale for dark comb honey at any price.

Beeswax is in fair demand at 23@25c. for good to choice yellow. C. F. M. & S.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Apr. 6.—We have had an exceedingly slow trade on honey this season, and prices ruled comparatively low. We quote to-day: No. 1 white comb, 1-lb., 14@15c.; No. 2, 13@14c.; No. 1 amber, 12@13c.; No. 2, 10@11c. Extracted, 5@7c. Beeswax, 20@22c. C.-M. C. Co.

NEW YORK, N. Y., May 25.—New crop of Southern honey is arriving freely. The market is well supplied and demand very light. We quote: Common grade, 50c. per gal.; choice, 55@60c. Beeswax is firm at 28c. H. B. & S.

List of Honey and Beeswax Dealers,

Most of whom Quote in this Journal.

Chicago, Ills.

J. A. LAMON, 43 South Water St.
R. A. BURNETT & Co., 163 South Water Street.

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CLEMOMS-MASON COM. Co., 521 Walnut St.

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